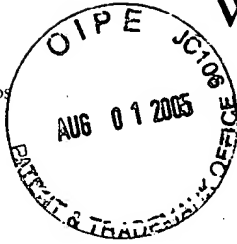


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EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV657808697US PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No.: 15436.860

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## TRANSMITTAL FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT



Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is an Information Disclosure Statement.

Enclosed also are the following designated documents, as required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449 list of 5 references submitted for consideration.
- ☒ Legible copies of the listed references or their relevant portions.
- ☐ All English translations of each non-English reference, if any, within the possession, custody, control or availability of anyone designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c)).

The following are included within the Information Disclosure Statement if applicable and as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98:

- ☐ Concise explanation of relevance of each reference not in English and unaccompanied by an English translation.
- ☐ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed are substantially cumulative of an enclosed reference.

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VERNON R. RICE §  
OF COUNSEL

\* Admitted only in California  
§ Admitted only in Virginia

\_\_\_\_ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the identified prior application which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

\_\_\_\_ Legible Copies of previously filed Information Disclosure Statement for application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_.

In order to secure consideration of the items designated above, one or more of the following, if required, is also enclosed:

X Request for Continued Examination.

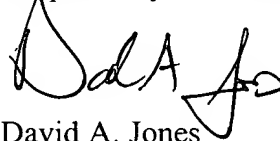
X Credit Card payment form for the fee amount set forth under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e);

\_\_\_\_ Petition for Consideration and Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

X In the event that 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) applies and the Examiner is not satisfied that the Promptness Certification meets the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or in any other event remediable by a fee, please credit any over payment or charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3178 of the undersigned.

Dated this 1 day of August, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



David A. Jones  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 50,004  
Customer No. 022913

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV657808697US

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No.: 15436.860



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Christina Woody Mercier

Serial No.: 09/896,408

Filed: June 28, 2001

For: AUTOMATED CREATION OF  
APPLICATION DATA BATHS IN  
STORAGE AREA NETWORKS

Confirmation No.: 2281

Customer No.: 22913

Examiner: Jude Jean Gilles

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. §§

102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the enclosed art is the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

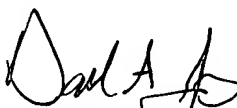
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each of the listed references or relevant portion thereof is also enclosed.

Since all listed references are either in the English language or are accompanied by a translation into English, no concise explanation of relevance is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).

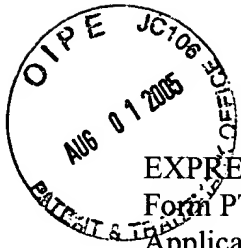
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c), a Request for Continued Examination, and the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) are enclosed to secure consideration of the references submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement. Please credit any over payment or charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3178 of the undersigned.

Dated this 1 day of August, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



David A. Jones  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 50,004  
Customer No. 022913



EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV657808697US

Form PTO-1449

Sheet 1 of 2

Applicant: Christina Woody Mercier

Serial No.: 09/896,408

Att'y Docket No.: 15436.860

Filing Date: June 28, 2001

Group: 2143

Confirmation No.: 2281

For: AUTOMATED CREATION OF APPLICATION DATA PATHS IN  
STORAGE AREA NETWORKS

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONS MADE BY APPLICANT

U.S. Patent Documents

<u>Examiner Initial*</u>	<u>Patent Number</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
_____ A1.	5,941,972	08/24/1999	Hoese et al.
_____ A2.	6,041,381	03/21/2000	Hoese
_____ A3.	6,138,161	10/24/2000	Reynolds et al.
_____ A4.	6,751,702	06/15/2004	Hsieh et al.
_____ A5.	6,801,992	10/05/2004	Gajjar et al.

Foreign Patent Documents

<u>Examiner Initial*</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Publ. Date</u>	<u>Country or Patent Office</u>	<u>Sub Class</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Trans- lation</u>
NONE						

Other Documents

Examiner  
Initial\*

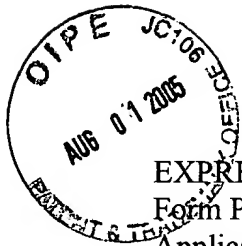
NONE

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Examiner:

Date Considered:

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV657808697US

Form PTO-1449

Sheet 2 of 2

Applicant: Christina Woody Mercier

Serial No.: 09/896,408

Att'y Docket No.: 15436.860

Filing Date: June 28, 2001

Group: 2143

Confirmation No.: 2281

For: AUTOMATED CREATION OF APPLICATION DATA PATHS IN  
STORAGE AREA NETWORKS

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### References Cited by Applicants

While the filing of Information Disclosure Statements is voluntary, the procedure is governed by the guidelines of Section 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. To be considered a proper Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 shall be accompanied by a copy of each listed patent or publication or other item of information and a translation of the pertinent portions of foreign documents (if an existing translation is readily available to the applicant), an explanation of relevance of each reference not in the English language, and should be submitted in a timely manner as set out in MPEP Sec. 609.

Examiners will consider all citations submitted in conformance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and MPEP Sec. 609 and place their initials adjacent the citations in the spaces provided on this form. Examiners will also initial citations not in conformance with the guidelines which may have been considered. A reference may be considered by the Examiner for any reason whether or not the citation is in full conformance with the guidelines. A line will be drawn through a citation if it is not in conformance with the guidelines AND has not been considered. A copy of the submitted form, as reviewed by the Examiner, will be returned to the applicant with the next communication. The original of the form will be entered into the application file.

Each citation initialed by the Examiner will be printed on the issued patent in the same manner as references cited by the Examiner on Form PTO-892.

The reference designations "A1," "A2," etc. (referring to Applicant's reference 1, Applicant's reference 2, etc.) will be used by the Examiner in the same manner as Examiner's reference designations "A," "B," "C," etc. on Office Action Form PTO-1142.

TAT0000001280V001

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Examiner:

Date Considered:

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.